

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A portable radio terminal for realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising: means
5 for intermittently performing AFC operation; and means for shortening an AFC operation stop period when a frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is large.

2. A terminal according to claim 1, further comprising means for extending the stop period in
10 intermittent operation of the AFC operation when the frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is small.

3. A terminal according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the intermittent operation includes not only the AFC operation but also operation stop of said portable radio terminal.

15 4. A portable radio terminal for realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising means for updating a frequency shift to the oscillator when the frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is smaller
20 than a predetermined value and frequency shifts in the same direction are detected a predetermined number of times.

5. A portable radio terminal for realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an
25 oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising means

for monitoring a reception quality or sync state and determining in accordance with a result whether to input a frequency shift value to the oscillator.

6. A terminal according to claim 1, further comprising means for performing the AFC operation at a predetermined short period when said portable radio terminal fails in decoding, does not detect any pilot signal, or detects an out-of-sync state.

7. An AFC control method of realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising intermittently performing AFC operation, and when a frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is large, shortening an AFC operation stop period.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein when the frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is small, the stop period in intermittent operation of the AFC operation is extended.

9. A method according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the intermittent operation includes not only the AFC operation but also operation stop of a portable radio terminal.

10. An AFC control method of realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising updating a frequency shift to the oscillator when the

frequency shift of the oscillation frequency is smaller than a predetermined value and frequency shifts in the same direction are detected a predetermined number of times.

- 5 11. An AFC control method of realizing automatic frequency control (AFC) for automatically controlling an oscillation frequency of an oscillator, comprising monitoring a reception quality or sync state and determining in accordance with a result whether to input a
10 frequency shift value to the oscillator.

12. A method according to claim 7, wherein the AFC operation is performed at a predetermined short period when decoding fails, no pilot signal is detected, or a step-out state is detected.